

PTO/SB/06a (04-07)

Approved for use through 9/30/2007. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Confirmation Number	2148
Application Number	09/966,447
Filing Date	September 28, 2001
First Named Inventor	David Christian Lenz
Group Art Unit	3773
Examiner Name	Melissa K. Ryckman
Attorney Docket Number	CRD0957USNP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		2002/0065557	A1	Goble, E. et al.	05-30-2002	
		4,455,690		Homsy, C.	06-26-1984	
		5,263,984	A	Li, S.-T., et al.	11-23-1993	
		5,571,191	A	Fitz, W.	11-05-1996	
		5,628,756	A	Barker, Jr., et al.	05-13-1997	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
		DE	20112123		Aesculap AG & Co., KG	10-31-2001	English translation	
		WO	00/53126	A1	Aesculap AG & Co., KG	09-14-2000		
		WO	02/065954	A1	Queen's University at Kingston	08-29-2002		
		WO	02/067793	A2	SDGI Holdings, Inc.	09-06-2002		

Examiner Signature	/Melissa Ryckman/ (09/28/2011)	Date Considered	
--------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**